

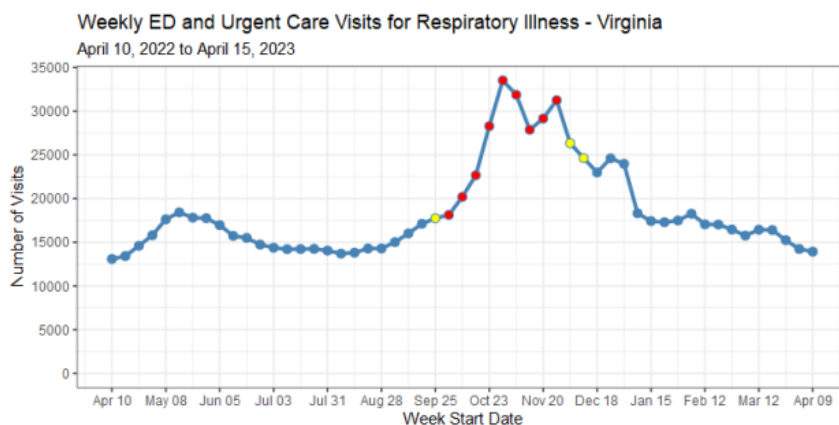
April 21, 2023

Key Takeaways

- All but four Virginia localities remain at low COVID-19 community levels. Galax city and surrounding counties, and Emporia city are at medium community levels. All other locales report low community levels. All regions are at minimal influenza levels. Statewide influenza levels are also at minimal for the first time this year.
- The CDC updated COVID-19 vaccine recommendations, including additional bivalent booster doses for those age 65+ and those who are immunocompromised. So far, 42.7% of Virginia seniors have received a bivalent booster, including 44.7% of eligible seniors.
- Equatorial Guinea reported seven additional confirmed Marburg virus cases, bringing the total to 16 confirmed and 23 probable cases.
- Improved biosecurity has vastly reduced the number of avian flu outbreaks among commercial flocks according to the USDA

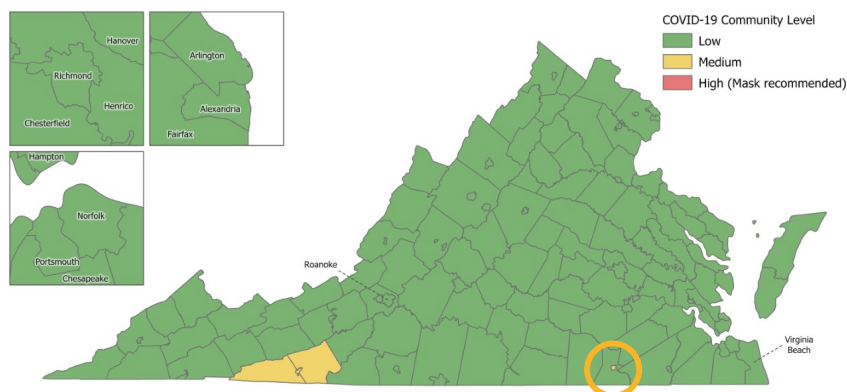
Key Figures

Respiratory Disease Activity



CDC COVID-19 Community Levels

As of April 20, 2023



Source: [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)

COVID-19

27%

Chance that the WHO will identify a new COVID-19 Variant of Concern in 2023. (Metaculus [forecast](#))

9%

Chance that Virginia will experience a COVID-19 case surge before **September** 2023. (Metaculus [forecast](#))

172

New COVID-19 [hospital admissions](#) in Virginia for the week ending April 15.

Mpox

4

The total number of [mpox](#) cases expected in Virginia in Q2 (April - June) 2023. (Metaculus [forecast](#))

Refugees

4,130

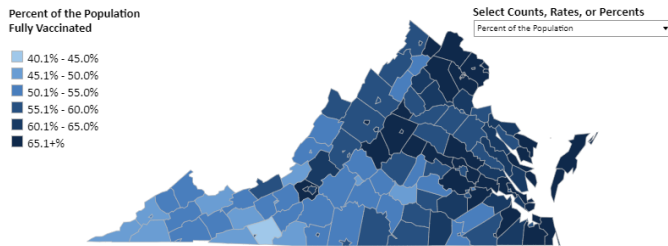
Number of refugees expected to be resettled in Virginia through official programs in US FY2023. (Metaculus [forecast](#))

Spotlight: COVID-19

Spotlight

COVID-19

People Fully Vaccinated by Locality of Residence and Vaccination Status - Percent of the Population



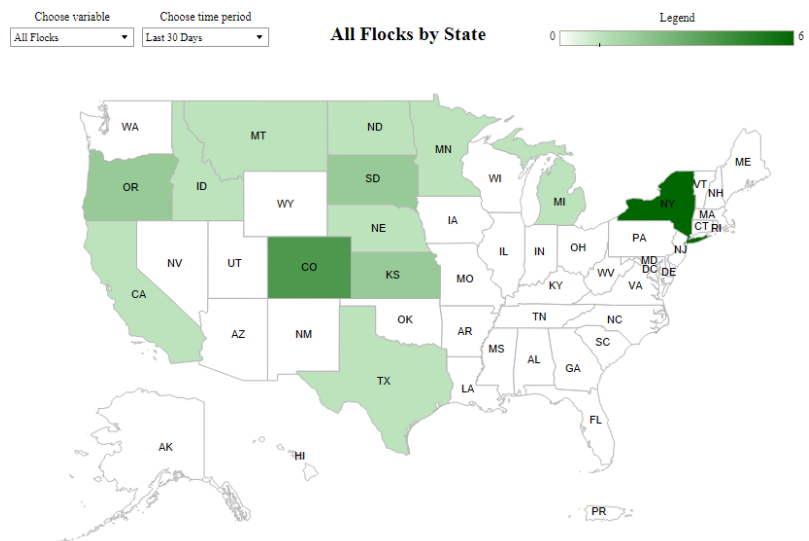
People Not Mapped : 806,822

Share of population fully vaccinated (completed primary series) in Virginia. Vaccination rates vary widely across the state. Source: [VDH](#).

- Despite decreasing, the [COVID-19](#) fatality rate continues to exceed the influenza rate. A [study](#) examining Fall 2022 & Winter 2023 hospitalizations in a Veterans Affairs database found a death rate after 30 days of 5.97% for COVID-19, and 3.75% for influenza.
- A preliminary [analysis](#) found that COVID-19 remained the third leading cause of death through September 2022. COVID-19 was the third leading cause of death in both [2020](#) and [2021](#).
- The CDC [recommended](#) additional bivalent booster doses for those age 65+ and the immunocompromised. In Virginia, 42.7% of seniors have [received](#) their bivalent booster, while uptake has slowed significantly. Metaculus forecasters [give](#) a 75% chance that at least 50% of Virginia seniors will receive at least one bivalent booster dose by the end of the year. [Nationally](#), 42.4% of seniors have received a bivalent booster.
- A new [study](#) estimates that COVID-19 vaccines saved over 1 million lives in Europe since the end of 2020. 96% of lives saved were among adults age 60 and older.

Other News

- Equatorial Guinea [reported](#) seven additional confirmed [Marburg](#) cases, bringing the [total](#) to 16 confirmed and 23 probable cases. There have been 34 deaths among confirmed and probable cases. Some cases do not have clear epidemiologic links, suggesting undetected transmission.
- Improved biosecurity has vastly reduced the number of [avian flu](#) outbreaks among commercial flocks [according to the USDA](#). Nevertheless, in the last 30 days, the USDA [reported](#) 26 outbreaks among poultry flocks across 14 states, mostly in the Midwest.



Map of avian flu outbreaks in commercial and backyard flocks in the last 30 days. Most outbreaks have occurred in the Midwest over that time period. However, New York has experienced six outbreaks, the most of any state. Over the entire course of the outbreak, Minnesota (121), South Dakota (78), and Pennsylvania (67) have experienced the most outbreaks. Virginia has experienced 10 outbreaks so far, mostly in backyard flocks. Source: [USDA](#). Data current as of April 20, 2023.